

ARIZONA SILVER BELT.

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THE MINING FIELD.

A Brief Portrayal of the Mining Industry of Arizona and the Great Southwest.

MINE AND MILL---SHAFT, CHUTE AND TUNNEL.

PROGRESS BEING MADE BY PROSPECTOR AND PROMOTER--THE MINING INDUSTRY THROUGHOUT THE GLOBE COPPER BELT--A WEEKLY RESUME OF TRANSPIRING EVENTS TERSELY TOLD.

ANOTHER STRIKE ON THE AMERICAN COPPER GROUP.

Some of the mines which have been recently acquired by the American Mines Development Company, Ltd., of Minneapolis, joining the Plainview group, are proving more interesting at the present time than those of the original group. This last copper strike is located on the northwest side of Mineral Creek canyon, where an enormous ledge shows up with good copper croppings all along its course, and carrying streaks of rich ore which can be traced for 4,000 feet. This property was originally located 15 years ago as a silver proposition and considerable ore was taken out at that time. It has been abandoned and relocated several times since, but little work was done. The ore, from the assays made recently, shows only two and one-half ounces silver, the copper showing up over 40 per cent. The ore where the work is being pushed at present on the upper tunnel and shaft shows up carbonate and red oxide in these rich streaks and also carries some sulphide. The ledge lies in such a shape that the lower tunnels may be run in to the northeast on the vein at about 800 feet below the surface and to the southwest, which will open the vein about 1,000 feet from the top of the ledge. Work has been begun at these points and will be pushed rapidly as it certainly looks very encouraging. Dr. O. B. Bachman, vice president of the American Mines Development company, states that work has been begun on the sulphide ore shaft on the Plainview group and the vein is showing up well. There is little doubt that some very profitable mines will be opened up with development on the American group as the surface showing is as promising there as it is at any point on the copper zone which runs from the Old Dominion through the Ray. There is plenty of wood, and water can be gotten in almost any of the canyons at from six to twelve feet, and there are also many living springs of good water in the neighborhood. J. F. McArthur of Los Angeles, who is to become manager for the American Mines Development Company, Ltd., here, is expected to arrive about the 12th of this month.

THE KINGSTON GROUP.

Geo. P. Andrews, who is directing the development on the Kingston mine, is building a road to the property and will erect a whim over the shaft, which is 137 feet deep, and it is to be sunk another 100 feet. The shaft will be timbered before sinking is begun. The bottom of the shaft is now in ore which assays 15 1/2 per cent copper and the ledge on the surface is 20 feet wide. The Kingston is one of three claims which lie a short distance east of the Grey and south of the Copper Hill mine. They are owned by Messrs. Bolling, Rogers & Star and James Wiley, and were bonded some months ago to Dr. A. P. Campbell and associates of St. Louis. The Kingston is a fine prospect, and there is strong reason to believe that the development to be done will open an important ore body.

TONTON LASIN MINES.

D. D. McDonald of Jerome, is in receipt of the following from Alfred Haught, dated at Payson on May 24: "I have been at work on a group of claims east of your claims some 12 miles, and from surface indications think I have a fine showing; plenty of wood and water at the claims, and the claims can be worked with a tunnel to the depth of 1,000 feet. Everything here is looking better. At the mouth of Rye, Schell has five feet of high grade ore (so I am told by a man who talked with Schell). They are shipping high grade ore out of here all the time, and if a custom smelter could be put up, what a chance for the mines and mill. The first mill in is the one which will get the plums. But after a little while one mill cannot handle the ore. It is my honest opinion, and I have been in mining camps for 24 years, that this country will make a great copper camp. There is about every class of copper known here. In the claims I am at work on there is copper glance, black copper, malachite, sulphide and several other kinds. Just this side of me, and

nearer to you, a vein was struck that runs in copper and gold \$2,000 a ton. Marsh, of your town, I am told, is at work on some rich gold leads just east of you, but they are base and everything here is base at water level, so a smelter is the salvation of this country.

A RICH MINERAL SECTION.

Our Payson correspondent sends us the following: No better advertisement can be given to a district than the actual shipping of ores. This section which includes a large area of mineral, while virtually in its infancy, so far as development goes, is sure to become a prominent factor in the future production of the world's copper. The Gun Creek and Mazatzal districts are both destined to be large copper producers, while the ores of the Mazatzal also contain good values in gold and silver. The Cracker Jack mine of this (Green Valley) district only a year ago was considered a mere prospect, very little had been done and no one would entertain a proposition to work it; today a shaft is down 90 feet with some 150 feet of drifting all in ore of sufficient high grade to ship to Globe, a distance of 50 miles, thence to El Paso, and pay a fair profit. There are other properties here that can be made to pay by shipping the ore. There is now a proposition on foot to put in a smelter on the East Verde, which if materialized should be a paying investment. Capital seeking investment in copper mines can find no surer and safer spot than in the northern districts of Gila county.

LOCAL MINING NOTES.

E. H. Cook, superintendent of the United Globe mines, went to El Paso last Monday, to arrange (so we are informed) for the installing of an electric light plant at the mines.

Territorial and General.

A bar of refined gold weighing 180 ounces was received in Prescott last week, from the Batton mine on Minnehaha flat.

Calumet & Hecla stock, which was recently quoted at 75, has declined, since the announcement of the fire in the mine, to 65.

Mexico in 15 years has increased her annual silver production from \$30,000,000 to \$71,000,000, and output of gold from \$2,000,000 to \$25,000,000.

The Tamarack mining company of Michigan, has declared a semi-annual dividend of \$7 a share, against \$6 the last one, and \$4 a year ago. The latest is dividend No. 34 and brings the total distributed to date to \$6,000,000.

The H. C. Frick Coke company shut down 10 per cent of its coke bins in the Connellsville region last week. As the Frick company operates two-thirds of the ovens in the region this means a closing down of over 1,000 ovens and the curtailment of production of about 800 tons of coke per day.

Fred Brawn and Fred Coolidge have bonded their Turquoise Queen mine to Clarence Stewart and a Mr. Mackay, of Boston. A force of men are now at work on the property. The turquoise mines are situated in the Big Bend of the Colorado river and are said to have produced many magnificent gem stones. Mohave County Miner.

Mohave county gold mines, says the Miner, are now more sought after than any other class of mining property. Especially is this so in the Blue Ridge range, where conditions exist more favorable to the extraction of gold than in other sections of Arizona. The ledges of that locality are big and strong, carrying gold values. The small veins carry very rich ore.

The Anaconda Copper company has begun construction of the largest smelter in the world, to be located at Anaconda, and to require two years for building. The old smelters will be retained and modernized, and in the end production will be largely increased. In this step Standard Oil faith and purpose in the copper industry are exemplified.

George Lockwood had a carload of G. A. B. ore worked at the Kingman sampler this week. Mr. Lockwood is

said to have \$4,000 worth of ore now in sight in his lease and the drift is only in the edge of the ore chute. The chances are that Lockwood will clean up in the neighborhood of \$100,000 within the next eight or ten months. The ore is wonderfully rich in gold and silver. Miner.

The railroad survey from Seligman to Hillsdale is expected to be completed by July 1, when construction will be begun and the road completed to the Hillsdale mine as soon as possible. The Prescott Prospect says: The Hillsdale mine is one of the great mines of the territory, and will doubtless soon take on a new and active complexion.

Calumet & Hecla directors voted to declare a dividend of \$10, payable June 28 to stock of record June 1. This is dividend No. 115, and will make a total of \$68,850,000 distributed to date. The last declaration was \$20, the same as previous ones. May is the first month of the fiscal year, so that last year the company distributed \$80 per share, or \$800,000. The previous year \$70 was paid, and the year subsequent to that \$40.

Two millions of dollars were expended monthly in the Cripple Creek fields of Colorado to put the mines on a paying basis and this expenditure was kept up for several years. Put the same amount of money into Arizona, says the Mohave County Miner, and the return will be a surprise to the investors. Arizona has more and richer mining country than any other section of America, and when capital is turned this way the output of gold bullion will surprise the world.

A. G. Grossman came in from Chloride Wednesday evening last, says the Mohave Miner. He has just returned from a trip to Searchlight, Homestake and the Sheeptrail mines and is of the opinion that the river country is soon to be a great producer of gold. While at Searchlight prospectors brought in rock from recent discoveries near that camp that was very rich in gold. Copper rock that looked exceedingly well was also found between Searchlight and El Dorado canyon.

The demands for the various minerals applied to electrical uses makes it advisable if not necessary for the miners to read up on metallurgy and mineralogy, says the Western Mining World. Miners are now advised to be on the lookout for all crystals of hardness and weight, and for species of sand or crystal difficult to wash away, while panning for prospects. Just now the electricians are seeking a mineral called gadolinite which is said to be of great use in the electrical world.

The Needles smelter will have a capacity of 100 tons daily. The freight rates from Kingman and Chloride to the smelter has been fixed at \$1.25 per ton. Miners with bodies of medium grade ores should now get to work and supply this smelter with ore, says the Mineral Wealth. Mine owners in Mohave county have long looked forward to a smelter where transportation charges would be reduced so that their lower grade ores could be reduced at a profit. If the smelter is in experienced hands, and we presume it is, it will be a great paying enterprise and is the long felt want of the desert miner.

The Prescott correspondent of the Republican says: W. W. Elliott has completed the installing of an amalgamating and concentrating plant on the "Red Rock" mine in west Peoplesh valley, Weaver district, for George Wood & Co. The plant has a capacity of 10 tons per day and is put in simply to prospect the mine. The mine is looking remarkably well, the company having done something like 700 feet of development work, showing an ore chute 300 feet long, averaging 30 inches in width and of an average value of \$23 in gold. The ores are of sulphide origin, carrying free gold.

At Butte, Montana, June 2, Judge Knowles of the United States circuit court handed down his decision in the famous mining case of the Colusa-Parrott company, owned by ex-Senator W. A. Clark, and the Anaconda company, controlled by Marcus Daly. The question is of union of the veins of the Colusa-Parrott and its connection between the 800 and the 1,000-foot levels of the mine with that of the Anaconda. The suit was to recover ore that the Anaconda people had extracted from the part below the alleged union. The court finds for the Anaconda company, holding there are two distinct veins.

The Boston News Bureau states that a gentleman who is well informed regarding Boston & Montana affairs says: "The Boston & Montana will this fiscal year earn in excess of \$8,000,000 and it can easily pay \$50 per share in dividends. The mine is opened up 10 years ahead and has \$45,000,000 worth of ore in sight. The company is today controlled by Mr. Begelow and his associates, although

the mine is worked in harmony with the Standard Oil people who are now managing the Butte & Boston. The same engineers are employed by both companies. On its earnings the stock should be selling in the neighborhood of \$500 per share, but stockholders fear the Heinze litigation. There is entirely too great a difference in price between Calumet & Hecla and Boston & Montana."

The Phoenix Gazette states that the Congress mine, in Yavapai county, Arizona, has been sold to ex-Senator Warner Miller and a syndicate of New Yorkers, for \$3,000,000. The Gazette says the money was paid through the Chase National bank of New York, and E. B. Gage and Frank Murphy get the bulk of this enormous sum. Senator Miller made four different examinations of the property before purchasing, but during his last visit in March he made up his mind to buy the property, and the Congress mine is now in his hands and his company is operating it. The Congress is one of the most valuable gold mines in Arizona.

The Verde Queen smelter, at Jerome, is now in successful operation. Some trouble was experienced at first in preparing the furnace charge, but after adding the necessary iron flux no further difficulty was had. The plant handles 40 tons of ore every 24 hours, and there is sufficient ore in sight to keep it in operation for several months. The Reporter says very little is known of the personnel of the company, any further than that Col. Rosworth has associated with him men of sufficient means to carry on the work as extensively as circumstances may justify. As yet there has been no stock offered for sale and the management informs us that they do not contemplate offering any to the public.

One of the most important mining deals along the range and one which will mean much for Turquoise, says the Prospector, is the closing of negotiations for bond on several contiguous groups of copper mines at Turquoise by a company composed of Capt. W. H. McKittick and the Ryan Bros., cattle barons of Arizona. The mines secured are a group owned by St. Bryant, four claims owned by Alexander Casey, and several claims owned by John Gleason. The aggregate figures stipulated in the bonds will reach nearly \$100,000 and a payment down of 10 per cent on each of the bonds was made together with proviso that installments on the principal are to be forthcoming every three months during the term of the one year bond.

One of the best mines in Arizona is the Copper Chief, formerly known as the Equator, says the Jerome correspondent of the Republican. Over this property a bitter legal war was fought for ten years. It is estimated that there is \$2,000,000 worth of ore in sight at present. So far only development work has been done. A force of men has been steadily engaged opening up the mine since the litigation was settled. Superintendent Hendry has had extensive experiments made of the cyanide process on the Copper Chief ore, all of which are said to have been very satisfactory. I am reliably informed a large cyanide plant has been ordered and will be placed as soon as it arrives, and active operations begun at once. The Copper Chief is only a short distance from Jerome. A postoffice has been established there already. Keep your eye on the Copper Chief.

The South Bisbee mining property is to be developed on a larger scale than formerly. Peter Johnson and Maurice Denn will put a new force of men at work sinking a shaft on the Uncle Sam Number Two, a claim of the South Bisbee group. The contract, says the Review, is for a shaft 600 feet in depth. The claim on which the sinking is to be done has been developed only on a small scale, but it contains the finest surface croppings ever seen in this district. The location of the intended work is about one and one-quarter miles in a southerly direction from the Holbrook shaft, about one-quarter of a mile from the South Bisbee hoist, and nearly 3,000 feet to eastward of the White Tail Deer. The winze sinking from the north drift on the 700-foot level of the South Bisbee mine is still in ledge matter and more or less ore of good grade. The winze has passed through a body of good ore and should it lose the present promising formation as it goes down, it will be abandoned and drifting will be commenced from the ore encountered, at a depth of 26 feet below the level. The entire formation of the South Bisbee mine is changing with development from lime rock of flint like hardness to a broken formation containing clay and black manganese, thus greatly facilitating the opening of the ground. The company will commence shipping ore two weeks from now, from which date the shipment of ore will continue steadily.

RUSH TO NOME.

It Promises to Surpass all Former Gold Excitements in America.

SHOTGUN TITLES LIKELY TO PREVAIL.

THIRTY VESSELS WILL LAND 30,000 PASSENGERS WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS--ALL THE RICH GROUND HAS BEEN LOCATED--THE TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES WILL REAP THE HARVEST.

Cape Nome is the present Mecca of the miner, says the Mining & Scientific Press. The historic rush to California in '49, the Fraser boom, the stampede to Pike's Peak, even the Klondike of '97, fail to fill the present proportions. From San Francisco and Seattle last month went many vessels carrying thousands of the best American miners, for in these adventures none but the daring start and none but the strong survive. With them went the usual parasites and an unusual number of unskilled men and women, lawyers, broken down sports and restless people. Some of those going had as part of their outfit guns and legal attendants; others had powers of attorney and paper possession of sundry claims; others took suitable machinery, counting on that and personal efficiency to get a "lay" from some one up there possessed of a claim but lacking other essentials; others went because they had enough money to get there, and were taking chances; a few knew what they were going to do and how they were going to do it. Meanwhile from the Yukon region, earlier, went more than enough to occupy all the available ground reported. Probably later arrivals will scatter out and find new territory; some of them invest, as they can not remain idle under such heavy expense as having at Cape Nome entails. The most authentic accounts received indicate inevitable confusion. The uncertainty of title the peculiar circumstances recited herein heretofore in detail, the unlikelihood of congressional action and the still less likelihood of ability to enforce such probable action this summer, makes it manifest that throughout that arctic region in 1900 the rule will prevail "that they shall take who have the power and they shall keep who can." Shotgun title may be submitted in evidence before a quiet court of local but sufficient jurisdiction, the apparent idea being to exhaust the ground before the unwieldy process of federal law can even get to the preliminary injunction. The arrival of the thirty vessels within ten days of each other and their 30,000 passengers and their enormous cargoes of freight will be another source of present confusion, all landing together on a two-mile strip of sand beach from vessels compelled to lie off shore four miles, relying on the hundreds of light boats tossing in the surf to get freight and passengers ashore. There is enormous present profit in the business to outfitters and transportation companies. Instances are furnished where a vessel costing but \$20,000 gets \$80,000 freight money for one trip. Those who furnish the supplies and carry the passengers will not be the first to decry the possibilities of the new El Dorado. Nome reports that powers of attorney have been used so extensively at Cape Nome this winter that it is doubtful if any of the 30,000 men rushing northward will be able to secure claims in Nome, York or the contiguous districts. A. Ellis, writing from Juneau, says that several hundred men at Nome have spent the entire winter locating thousands of claims for themselves and for others by power of attorney. It is yet unknown at Nome whether the powers of attorney will be recognized by the federal officers arriving this summer to administer the laws. Ellis says the rich part of the beach, so far as prospecting, is limited to 10 miles.

Information from Alamos, in the state of Sonora, conveys the intelligence that a most wonderful mining activity has recently commenced in that rich and greatly productive region, says the Oasis. Alamos was a well known center of mining industry under the Spanish viceroys in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and hundreds of mines were profitably worked while millions of dollars in bullion were shipped to the City of Mexico, thence to Spain. The old Spaniards and later workers never worked a mine to a depth greater than two or three hundred feet. With the crude appliances of those days even the richest ledges did not pay to work to greater depths, so they were abandoned. In the great district of Alamos there are hundreds of such aban-

doned mines now open to denouncement, which under modern methods may be successfully and very profitably worked. Upon all sides they are being taken up and worked, and more newcomers arrive daily in the quest for properties. New and virgin properties are also being discovered and denounced and ore shipments are increasing, while several new reduction plants are in contemplation.

The Yuma Sun says: John C. Goodwin, superintendent for the Erie Machinery company of Kansas City, commenced work last Tuesday with a large force of men on the hull of a big dredge boat for the Advance Gold Dredging company of Colorado Springs, which corporation owns a large deposit of gold-bearing gravel in the Potholes district, twelve miles above Yuma, on the Colorado river. This dredge when complete will cost \$55,000 and will be the largest and most perfect machine of the kind ever built in the United States. Under favorable conditions this machine will dig and wash 4,000 cubic yards of gravel in 24 hours, and as the ground upon which it will be operated carries an average of 50 cents per yard in gold the net profits from its operation will be more than \$1,000 per day. The company has ground enough of known values to keep this dredge at work for the next ten years. A force of prospectors are now at work testing another large tract of ground and if the values come up to the expectation of the promoters at least a dozen more dredges of the same capacity will be placed in operation as soon as they can be constructed. While gold dredging is a new industry in Arizona there is no reason why it should not be a success. The gravel banks in many places along the Colorado river contain immense values in coarse gold with every condition favorable to successful operation by the dredger process. Unless all indications fail Yuma county will within the next three years be contributing at least \$5,000,000 annually to the circulating medium.

Michigan advices state that the fire which started in the Calumet & Hecla copper mine a week ago, is at the bottom of No. 2 shaft, nearly a mile under ground. No cause is assigned so far as learned and the extent and probable damage are beyond conjecture. The company's advices indicate that the fire will be confined to narrow limits. There is a large forest of timber in this mine and there is no saying when the fire will be extinguished or burn out. It has done battle with the destructive element before, but never was so well equipped to cope with the difficulty. The fire, which started Nov. 22, 1887, burned five months. That of August, 1888, burned until the following May. The company kept producing all the while. It will doubtless do the same now, after a brief season of partial idleness. Three thousand men are temporarily off duty. A Houghton dispatch says fire doors isolating No. 2 Hecla, the burning shaft, from other portions of the mine, were partly closed, but gas drove the men away before all the doors could be closed, which gives the flames a chance to creep to south Hecla and north to the Calumet branch. Seven of the 12 shafts on the conglomerate are now closed, but four Osceola shafts, being unconnected with the old mine, are working. The Red Jacket vertical shaft is also affected, as it is now connected with the incline shafts. Another dispatch says: The Calumet & Hecla mine, with the exception of Hecla shafts Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, and the shafts on the Osceola amygdaloid lode, are closed down on account of the fire in No. 2 shaft. This includes all of the Calumet branch, a part of the Hecla and the big Red Jacket shaft. The fire is apparently confined to No. 2 shaft, but the gas has spread to other parts of the mine, making mining dangerous. Since the former fire solid walls of masonry have been built across the openings connecting the different shafts, with iron doors protecting the levels in use, so that the fire cannot spread. No. 2 shaft will be sealed for a considerable time. The shafts cannot be freed from gas for several days, during which time a great part of the mine will be idle and also the mill.